IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications system, comprising:

a plurality of network clients including a positioning controller and a communications controller; and

a positioning server configured to receive position location information from said positioning controller;

wherein said positioning server includes a periodic timer for determining when said location position information is to be received from associated ones of said plurality of network clients responsive to receiving indicia of a presence of said associated ones such that said position information is received responsive to periodic expirations of the timer.

2. (Original) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said positioning controller receives global positioning network signals for determining a position of an associated network client.

3. (Original) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 2, wherein said communications controller comprises a cellular network controller for transmitting on a cellular telephone network to said server.

4. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said server sends one or more queries to an associated network client if a predetermined status message has not been received within a predetermined period as determined upon expiration of said timer.

5. (Original) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 4, wherein said predetermined status message comprises one or more identification

signals.

6. (Original) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 4, wherein said predetermined status message comprises one or more location-related update signals.

7. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications device, comprising:

a positioning controller adapted to determine location positioning information for said telecommunications device; and

a wireless data controller adapted to receive said location positioning information from said positioning controller and cause said location positioning information to be transmitted to an associated server at predetermined periodic intervals responsive to an activation with the associated server and upon expiration of a watchdog timer that begins a first count upon said activation.

8. (Original) A telecommunications device as recited in claim 7, wherein said positioning controller receives Global Positioning System (GPS) signals to determine said positioning information.

9. (Original) A telecommunications device as recited in claim 7, wherein said wireless data controller is adapted to receive requests from said server to provide positioning information-related updates to said server.

10. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications server, comprising:

a presence control unit adapted to receive and maintain presence information for a plurality of users; and

a location control unit adapted to receive and maintain location information for said plurality of users, said location information correlated with said presence information;

wherein said location control unit includes a periodic timer for determining when

said location information is to be received from associated ones of said plurality of users, said periodic timer being activated responsive to a registration of said associated ones with said telecommunications server, such that said location information is received upon periodic expirations of the timer.

11. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications server in accordance with claim 10, wherein said location control unit is adapted to query an associated one of said plurality of users if a predetermined status message has not been received within a predetermined period determined by said timer.

12. (Original) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 11, wherein said predetermined status message comprises one or more identification signals.

13. (Original) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 11, wherein said predetermined status message comprises one or more location-related update signals.

14. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications method, comprising:

receiving one or more location positioning signals at a wireless device; and

transmitting location position updates from said wireless device via a wireless data network to a server, said server including a periodic timer for determining when said location position updates are to be received from said wireless device, said periodic timer being activated responsive to a registration of said associated ones with said server, wherein said location position updates are to be received upon periodic expirations of the timer.

15. (Original) A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 14, wherein said receiving one or more positioning signals comprises receiving one or more signals from a global positioning network.

16. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 14, wherein said server is adapted to query said wireless device if a predetermined status message has not been received within a predetermined period determined upon expiration of said timer.

17. (Original) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 16, wherein said predetermined status message comprises one or more identification signals.

18. (Original) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 16, wherein said predetermined status message comprises one or more location-related update signals.

19. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications system, comprising:

a plurality of network clients including a positioning controller and a communications controller; and

a positioning server configured to receive position location information from said positioning controller;

wherein position information is received at the positioning server responsive to periodic expirations of a watchdog timer, the watchdog timer initialized responsive to receiving indicia of a presence of associated ones of the plurality of network clients.

20. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 19, wherein said positioning server includes said watchdog timer.

21. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 19, wherein said plurality of network clients includes said watchdog timer.